

United States Armed Forces played an extremely important role in the successful efforts of UNOSOM II to restore stability to the area and to enable U.N. humanitarian operations in Somalia to proceed. First, after determining that the leadership of one of Somalia's factions had planned and incited the June 5 attacks on U.N. peacekeepers, UNOSOM II initiated air and ground military operations in the early morning hours of June 12. Primary targets included weapons and ordnance caches and a radio facility that had been used to foment violence towards U.N. forces and opposition to implementation of the Security Council's humanitarian mandate in Somalia. United States fixed-wing and helicopter aircraft operating as part of the QRF, in support of UNOSOM II, destroyed or disabled those targets in a well-planned effort consistent with the Security Council's disarmament objectives and the mandate to restore security. United States forces sustained no casualties.

On June 17, the Special Representative of the Secretary General, acting pursuant to Security Council Resolution 837, ordered the arrest of General Mohammed Farah Aideed for alleged criminal acts against UNOSOM II peacekeeping forces on June 5. In addition, UNOSOM II forces conducted further coordinated ground and air operations designed to search, clear, and disarm the factional stronghold of General Aideed in south Mogadishu that posed a continuing threat to U.N. operations. Ground and aerial broadcasts warned civilians to leave the area. Targets included weapons and ammunition caches, command and control facilities, and defensive positions. Once again, the U.S. QRF, in support of UNOSOM II, conducted air attacks, followed by search and clearing operations on the ground by non-U.S. UNOSOM II military personnel. Only one U.S. military member sustained minor injury, although there were several deaths and a number of injuries among UNOSOM II forces from other nations due to resistance by militia units and sniper fire. Although Aideed has not yet been arrested, the June 17 operation accomplished the objective of securing Aideed's compound and neutralizing military capabilities that had posed a major obstacle to U.N. efforts to deliver hu-

manitarian relief, facilitate political reconciliation, and promote national reconstruction.

We now see renewed opportunity for UNOSOM II to move forward steadily towards fulfillment of the humanitarian mandate of the Security Council that is shared by the world community. By countering the lawless, unprovoked violence against U.N. peacekeepers, the United Nations has gone far towards preserving the credibility and security of peacekeeping forces in Somalia and throughout the world. United States forces remain on guard along with those of our U.N. partners to counter any threats to the important U.N. mission in Somalia, should they arise.

As before, I remain committed to ensuring that the Congress is kept fully informed on U.S. peacekeeping contributions and the use of U.S. Armed Forces for these vital purposes. I look forward to continuing discussions and close cooperation with you on these and related issues.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert C. Byrd, President pro tempore of the Senate.

Statement on the Reduction of Interest Rates in Germany

July 1, 1993

Today's news that Germany has cut interest rates again is welcome news. With over 22 million people out of work in Europe, and our economy at last beginning to create jobs again, Germany's responsible fiscal and monetary actions could not have come at a more critical time for both Europe and the United States. It is also another sign that when America takes the lead in cutting its deficit and getting interest rates down we encourage other major nations to follow our lead in spurring global growth. By getting our house in order, we have facilitated pro-growth policies in Europe that mean more demand for American products overseas and more jobs

and higher incomes for the Americans who make those products here at home.

Germany has taken an important step toward improved growth, and I look forward to further progress at the G-7 summit in Tokyo.

NOTE: Background information on European interest rates was attached to the statement.

Nomination for Deputy Administrator of the Agency for International Development

July 1, 1993

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Carol Lancaster to be the Deputy Administrator of the Agency for International Development, U.S. International Development and Cooperation Agency.

"An expert in U.S. foreign aid policies, particularly with respect to Africa, Carol Lancaster will bring a great deal to the management of AID," said the President. "I am grateful for her service."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nominations for Posts at the Department of the Navy

July 1, 1993

The President announced his choices for two top Navy posts today. He intends to nominate Frederick F.Y. Pang to be Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs and Nora Slatkin to be Assistant Secretary for Acquisition.

"I am very glad to be adding these two people to my Navy team today," said the President. "They bring with them lifetimes of dedicated service to their country and years of experience in shaping policies to keep our military the best in the world."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for an Assistant Secretary of Labor

July 1, 1993

The President announced his intention today to nominate Joseph Dear, formerly director of the State of Washington's Department of Labor and Industries, to be the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. In that role, he will serve as the Administrator of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

"With his experience running a major State agency regulating workplace safety and related matters, Joseph Dear is an outstanding choice for this important position," said the President. "During his tenure in Washington, he turned a deficit into a \$350 million surplus in the workers' compensation budget. He established a health care cost containment and quality assurance program and overhauled the workers' compensation system to save the taxpayers money while increasing benefits to workers. That is the kind of leadership I want to have at OSHA."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Director and General Counsel of the Peace Corps

July 1, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate former Peace Corps volunteer Carol Bellamy, an attorney and former New York State Senator and president of the New York City Council, as Director of the Peace Corps. The President also approved attorney Brian Sexton as Peace Corps General Counsel.

"Throughout her career, Carol Bellamy has achieved success in both the corporate world and in her own initiatives to improve the lives of those less fortunate," the President said. "I am confident she will use her experience in both of those areas to fulfill the important mission of the Peace Corps."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.